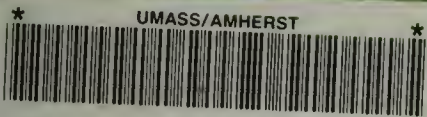


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THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING

ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL 1978

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THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING

ANNUAL REPORT - FISCAL 1978

INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Through this document, the Board of Registration in Nursing complies with Section 7, Chapter 112, General Laws, which requires the Board to "make an annual report of the condition of nursing in the Commonwealth." The report covers the fiscal year period from July 1, 1977 through June 30, 1978.

PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS OF BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING

The Board of Registration in Nursing, an administrative agency within the governmental organization of the Commonwealth, is delegated the responsibility for implementation of those statutes and sections of statutes that provide legal control of nursing practice. The fundamental purpose of the Board is to safeguard the welfare of the citizens of the Commonwealth who require the services of professional and practical nurses.

To fulfill its purpose, the Board has two major functions:

- Licensure of professional and practical nurses.
- Determination and maintenance of nursing education standards that are basic to licensure of safe practitioners through approval of nursing education programs.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD

Qualifications for membership are established by Section 13, Chapter 13, General Laws, as amended. Section 13 provides that the Board membership shall consist of eight members, each a resident of the Commonwealth, appointed by the Governor. One member of the Board shall be a representative of the public. Five members shall be registered nurses, each a graduate of a different approved school for nurses. At the time of appointment one registered nurse shall be on the teaching staff of a collegiate school for nurses, one shall be on the teaching staff of a diploma school for nurses, one shall be on the nursing administration staff of a duly licensed hospital, one shall be in the field of public health, and one on the teaching staff of a practical vocational school of nursing. Two members of the Board shall be licensed practical nurses. As the term of office expires, his successor shall be appointed for a term of six years, but no member shall be appointed for two consecutive terms. In making the original appointments to the present Board, the Governor appointed two members for a term of three years, three members for a term of four years, and three members for a term of six years.

Membership during the period covered by the report is outlined below:

<u>NAME OF MEMBER</u>	<u>REPRESENTATION</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
Anne Hargreaves	Public Health	1983
Benito Barsanti	Public Member	1983
Sophia Bousquet	Licensed Practical Nurse	1981
Frances Daigneault	Teaching Staff of Practical Nursing School	1981
Mary O'Leary	Teaching Staff of Collegiate School	1980
Mary Lou Saba	Nursing Service	1980

Jean Thorne	Licensed Practical Nurse	1983
Catherine Tower	Teaching Staff of Diploma School	1981

Board members held scheduled meetings during the year with a quorum being established at all meetings. Minutes of each meeting are on file at Board of Registration in Nursing office.

At the annual meeting in October 1977, Anne Hargreaves was elected Chairman and C. Tower was elected Vice-Chairman.

MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF

YEAR HIRED

Martha Ginty, R.N., M.Ed., Executive Secretary	October 1977
Genevieve Monaghan, R.N., M.S., Supervisor	August 1967
Eleanor Burke, R.N., M.S., Supervisor	May 1973
Beatrice Ames, R.N., M.S., Supervisor	January 1978

MEMBERSHIP OF CLERICAL STAFF

YEAR HIRED

Helen Hill, Head Clerk	1944
Mabel Dufault, Principal Clerk	1973
Isabelle Ryan, Principal Clerk	1967
Margaret Zevitas, Senior Clerk Typise	1966
Sarah Lebewohl, Junior Clerk	1966

BOARD ACTIVITIES

MEETINGS:

During the Fiscal year July 1, 1977 to June 30, 1978 the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing held twelve (12) regular meetings and seven (7) additional meetings. Three of these meetings were held at the Board of Registration in Nursing office at 100 Cambridge St., Boston, MA. as prescribed by law. At the request of the present Governor the remaining meetings were held at various sites in the state, in order to acquaint nurses throughout the Commonwealth with the activities and functions of the Board of Registration in Nursing. Areas visited were: Cape Cod, Beverly, Pittsfield, Westfield, Marlboro, North Dartmouth and Long Island.

APPOINTMENTS TO STAFF

During the year the Board appointed the following people to the Board staff:

Martha A. Ginty, R.N., M.Ed., Executive Secretary	October 1977
Beatrice Ames, R.N., M.S., Supervisor	January 1978

ADOPTION OF POLICIES AND/OR DECISIONS OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Adopted Rules and Regulations for Adjudicatory Proceedings
- Revised the definition and guidelines for generic Licensed Practical Nurse
- Determined that nurses' licenses cannot be revoked because they admitted being gay
- Agreed to hold meetings at different sites in Massachusetts
- Made policy that nurses from foreign countries would be required to take qualifying exam before being allowed to take our State Board Test Pool Examination.

- adopted policy that 'states' graduate nurses may take on all responsibilities of Registered Nurse, but that an agency has right to define the job description
- established that a charge nurse could be either Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse in Level I and II
- adopted Rules and Regulations pertaining to midwifery
- established that scores on State Board Test Pool Examination be used solely for program evaluation.
- advised all agencies that graduates who had failed State Board Test Pool Examination no longer could function as graduates.
- adopted policy on discrimination
- established that nurse practitioners are covered by protocols in following any standing orders
- instituted policy on new procedures
- instituted policy of I.V. therapy administration
- made decision that the feasibility of admitting handicapped people into nursing programs should follow Federal Guidelines and the responsibility be undertaken by institution for agency involved.
- adopted the policy that students who withdraw from Registered Nurse program may sit for Licensed Practical Nurse examination if they:
 1. get recommendation from Director of Program
 2. have transcript evaluated to document required number of hours equivalent to Licensed Practical Nurse program
- determined students in Registered Nurse program may not take Licensed Practical Nurse examination because they have not withdrawn
- adopted policy to send survey report to schools prior to presentation to Board
- determined that it was not safe nursing practice for an Registered Nurse to activate an electro-surgical unit in operating room
- determined a Registered Nurse should not administer I.V.P. dye to patients - that this was a radiological function.

VIEW OF LEGISLATION :

- S398 - Continuing Education - Supported
- H651 - Chapter 884
- H848 - Chapter 129
- H2200 - Practice of Midwifery - Supported
- H3343
- 3. H445 - Graduates of Registered Nurse professional school taking Licensed Practical Nurse Examination - Supported
(Chapter 885 of Acts 77)
- 4. H5609 - Adding more consumers to Board of Registration in Nursing - Opposed
- 5. #1125 - Sunset Bill - Opposed
- 6. #S397 - Deletion of work "attendant" from Chapter 11 - Supported
- 7. S5330 - Increase Fees - Supported only if some of the fees from the increase can be returned to the Board of Registration in Nursing for operation of the Board.

8. Immunity Bill - Bill granting immunity to Board members in deliberation of Board - Supported
9. Fair Information Practice Law - Supported
10. Chapter 846 - Nurse in the Expanded Role - Approved
11. Rules and Regulations for Adjudicatory Proceedings - Approved

IN ADDITION THE BOARD HAS:

- Established a policy that "Release of Information" forms be signed by candidate for examinations before releasing their marks.
- Reviewed drafts of future questions for Registered Nurse and Licensed Practical Nurse licensure and examination and made recommendations.
- Established passing score on State Board Test Pool Examination as 350
- Formed task force committees to revise Rules and Regulations Governing the professional and practical schools of nursing
- Met with Secretary of Office of Consumer Affairs and submitted a supplemental budget to fund Registrar position and possible second site for state boards.
- Met with Ways and Means Committee to discuss budget difficulties
- Held joint meetings with Board of Medicine to develop Rules and Regulations for the nurse in the expanded role.

FUTURE ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED ARE:

- Investigation of granting credits for Diploma school graduates
- Exploration of the need for more state Baccalaureate programs as well as other programs leading to advanced education degrees.
- Investigation of the ladder concept of nursing programs
- Consider possibility of issuance of licenses with identifying picture
- Pursuit of a second site for State Board Test Pool Examination
- Document the need for computerization
- Revision of Statutes, including policy on certification
- Investigate Budget inadequacies
- Promulgation of Rules and Regulations for nurses in other expanded roles
- Promulgation of Rules and Regulations for Continuing Education including process of certification
- Writing prescriptions

STAFF ACTIVITIES:

- administering examinations
- participating in committees/workshops
- making site visits to schools of nursing and clinical agencies
- preparing survey reports
- serving on task force committee for revision of Rules and Regulations Governing Schools of Nursing

IN ADDITION THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

- developed a 5 year plan for review of all schools
- represented the Board at meetings, conferences, workshops, etc.
- participated in seminars on nursing issues

- prepared budget and attended budget hearings
- served on the Massachusetts Nurses' Association committee for Continuing Education
- attended joint meetings on committee meetings dealing with the nurse in the expanded role.
- prepared legislation for adjudicatory proceedings
- served as guest lecturer on varied aspects of functions of Board of Registration in Nursing.

NURSING EDUCATION:

The Board of Registration in Nursing is the legal accrediting (approval) agency for nursing education programs preparing professional and practical nurses who are eligible for admission to the licensure procedure.

On September 30, 1977 a total of 9824 students were enrolled in basic nursing education programs leading to licensure in Massachusetts. This represents a decrease of 540 students over the enrollment in 1976.

There are three types of programs preparing professional nurses:

1. Schools of Nursing grant a DIPLOMA - administered by a hospital corporation
2. Schools of Nursing grant a ASSOCIATE DEGREE - administered by a junior or community college.
3. Schools of Nursing grant a BACCALAUREATE DEGREE - administered by a senior college or university.

SCHOOLS OF PROFESSIONAL NURSING:

<u>TYPE OF PROGRAM</u>	<u>NUMBER OF SCHOOLS</u>		
	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>
Diploma	28	26	22
Associate Degree	19	20	20
Baccalaureate Degree	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>
	57	57	53

GRADUATES

Diploma	1318	1193
Associate Degree	929	1006
Baccalaureate Degree	<u>820</u>	<u>979</u>
	3067	3178

SCHOOL CLOSURES:

<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE OF CLOSURE</u>
Holyoke Hospital - Diploma	Holyoke	1977
Lawrence General Hospital - Diploma	Lawrence	1977
Faulkner Hospital - Diploma	Boston	1978
Children's Hospital - Diploma	Boston	1978
Mt. Auburn Hospital - Diploma	Cambridge	1978
Salem Hospital - Diploma	Salem	1978

NEW SCHOOLS OPENED -- 1977 - 1978

<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>OPENING DATE</u>
American International College - Baccalaureate Degree	Springfield	1977
Curry - Associate Degree	Milton	1977

SCHOOLS OF PRACTICAL NURSING:

<u>TYPE OF PROGRAM</u>	<u>NUMBER OF SCHOOLS</u>		
	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>
Vocational	24	23	23
Non-Vocational	10	9	8
Total	34	32	31

GRADUATES:

Vocational	787	747
Non-Vocational	392	391
Total	1179	1138

SCHOOL CLOSURES:

<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE OF CLOSURE</u>
Addison Gilbert	Rockport	1978

SCHOOL SURVEYS:

Section 81A Chapter 112 General Laws as amended authorize the Board of Registration in Nursing to conduct a survey to inspect schools of professional and practical nursing for approval purposes. Traditionally the survey procedure has included a site visit. Current Board regulations require that each approved nursing program be inspected at least every five years. Implementation of this requirement has not always been possible because of lack of staff, number of new programs and the number of schools requiring more frequent visits. It was found that some schools of professional nursing had not been surveyed since 1939 and some schools of practical nursing since 1961. However, this year a 5 year plan was developed in order to comply more fully with this requirement. A concerted effort has been made to increase the number of surveys conducted in an attempt to bring all schools up to-date. During this fiscal year the following schools were visited for the purpose of survey:

SURVEYS:

PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS

Boston College School of Nursing
Massasoit Community College
University of Massachusetts
Berkshire Community College
Boston State School of Nursing
University of Lowell
Middlesex Community College
Cape Cod Community College
Quinsigamond Community College
Massachusetts Bay Community College

PRACTICAL SCHOOLS

David Hale Fanning CETA Program
Whittier Regional Vocational Technical School
Western Massachusetts Hospital School of Practical Nursing
Bristol Plymouth Regional Vocational School
Waltham Vocational School
Quincy Vocational Technical School

PROGRESS REPORTS REVIEWED:

Lasell Junior College
Salem State College
Somerville Hospital School of Nursing
Massasoit Community College
Burbank Hospital School of Nursing
Boston College
College of Our Lady of the Elms
Greater Lowell Regional Vocational School
Greenfield Community College
University of Massachusetts

CURRICULUM PROPOSALS FOR REVISION REVIEWED:

PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS

New England Baptist Hospital, School of Nursing
Lowell General Hospital, School of Nursing
Leominster Hospital, School of Nursing
North Shore Community College
Northern Essex Community College
Somerville Hospital, School of Nursing
Northeastern University, School of Nursing
Fitchburg State College

PRACTICAL SCHOOLS

Addison Gilbert Vocational School
Smith's Vocational High School
Department of Health and Hospitals - Boston City Hospital
David Hale Fanning School of Practical Nursing

LETTER OF INTENT TO OPEN NEW SCHOOLS - APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL:

1. American International College - 4 year Baccalaureate Program - Approved
2. Curry College - Associate Degree Program - Approved
3. Quincy Junior College - Associate Degree - Guidelines sent
4. Massachusetts General - Masters in Science - No Action
5. Our Lady of the Elms - 4 year Baccalaureate Program - Approved
6. North Shore Vocational - Denied
7. Quincy Junior College - Approved
8. David Hale Fanning (CETA) - Pending
9. Federated Dorchester Neighborhood House - Denied
10. Anna Maria College - Guidelines sent
11. Becker Junior College - Guidelines sent

APPROVALS GRANTED:

1. American International College
2. Curry College - Associate Degree
3. University of Massachusetts

BOARD ACTION:

Initial Approval
Initial Approval
Full Approval

4. Western Mass. Hospital School of Practical Nursing	Full Approval
5. Whittier Regional Vocational School	Full Approval
6. Boston State College	Full Approval
7. Bunker Hill Community College	Full Approval
8. Somerville Hospital School of Nursing	Full Approval
9. University of Lowell	Full Approval
10. Boston College School of Nursing	Full Approval
11. Middlesex Community College	Full Approval
12. Cape Cod Community College	Full Approval
13. Quinsigamond Community College	Full Approval
14. Massasoit Community College	Conditional Approval
15. Massachusetts Bay Community College	Full Approval
16. Greenfield Community College	Conditional Approval

The following schools were placed on temporary conditional approval during the year because of non-compliance of statutory regulations. The Director of the school did not have full authority in administration of nursing programs.

Massachusetts Bay Community College
Northern Essex Community College
Cape Cod Community College
Massasoit Community College
Quinsigamond Community College
Greenfield Community College
Middlesex Community College

The conditional approval because of non-compliance was removed when the above listed schools met the requirements.

EXAMINATIONS:

During the 1977 - 1978 fiscal year 4 examinations were conducted, two for the professional nurse in July and February, two for the practical nurse in October and April. A total of 5180 candidates were examined, 3957 candidates for professional nursing and 1223 candidates for practical nursing. Of these 4529 candidates were taking the test for the first time and 651 were repeating the examination

The following table indicates the performance of the candidates from all sources.

JULY 1977 - JUNE 30, 1978

<u>REGISTERED NURSE EXAMINATION</u>	<u>FIRST TIME</u>			<u>REPEATERS</u>		
	<u>PASS</u>	<u>FAIL</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>PASS</u>	<u>FAIL</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOLS	2609	331	2940	304	147	451
OUT OF STATE	274	36	310	35	19	54
OUT OF THE COUNTRY	37	39	76	61	65	126
	<u>2920</u>	<u>406</u>	<u>3326</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>231</u>	<u>631</u>

PRACTICAL NURSE EXAMINATION:

	PASS	FAIL	TOTAL	PASS	FAIL	TOTAL
MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOLS	1106	8	1114	7	7	14
OUT OF STATE	30	2	32	3	7	4
OUT OF THE COUNTRY	21	7	28	1	1	2
MASSACHUSETTS OLDER	0	1	1	1	0	0
EQUIVALENCY II	19	0	19	0	0	0
GRADUATE PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL	9	0	9	0	0	0
	1185	18	1203	11	9	20

THE TABLE BELOW INDICATES THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CANDIDATES FOR THE PAST 5 YEARS:

REGISTERED NURSE	LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE
1974-----2811	1974-----1361
1975-----3204	1975-----1363
1976-----3398	1976-----1250
1977-----3931	1977-----1212
1978-----4339	1978-----1239

SOME OF THE FOLLOWING PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN ENCOUNTERED DEALING WITH APPLICANTS FOR STATE BOARDS:

- not sufficient hours (Foreign Educated)
- not all required courses (Foreign Educated)
- non recognition of California Vocational Program & Examination
- destruction of records by fire
- non-official transcript - Iron Curtain Country
- mislaid records
- non-evidence of registration - Iron Curtain Country

ANNUAL DATA ON REGISTRATION:

ENDORSEMENT:

Licensure of a Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse from another state to practice nursing in Massachusetts.

CERTIFIED STATEMENTS:

Licensure by endorsement provides that the Board of Nursing of original licensure provide a certified statement to another Board of Nursing verifying that the applicant for endorsement has been validly licensed in the original state.

APPLICANTS FROM THE NEW YORK EXTERNAL DEGREE PROGRAM ENDORSED

5

REGISTERED NURSES

DATE	EXAMINATION	ENDORSE	RENEWALS	CERTIFIED STATEMENTS	LOST/STOLEN	TOTAL
1977	3931	1262	7119	STATES 3731	23	
				COUNTRIES 43		12312
1978	4339	1547	80,239	STATES 1705	49	
				COUNTRIES 28		86125

LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES

DATE	EXAMINATION	ENDORSE	RENEWALS	CERTIFIED	STATEMENTS	LOST/STOLEN	TOTAL
1977	1212	242	23,232	STATES	883	39	
				COUNTRIES	3		24686
1978	1245	234	1386	STATES	873	11	
				COUNTRIES	1		2865

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

NURSING FEES:

EXAMINATIONS.....	\$30.00
ENDORSEMENT.....	\$50.00
CERTIFIED STATEMENTS.....	\$ 2 00
CERTIFICATION.....	\$30.00
RENEWALS.....	\$ 6.00

(REGISTERED NURSE AND LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE)

ADJUDICATORY:

The Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing is charged with enforcing the laws governing the practice of nursing in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts thereby protecting the public from incompetent or illegal practitioners of nursing. At the time the present Board was appointed in March 1977 there were approximately 30 cases pending from the period of 1975 - 1977. The Board was able to adjudicate 24 of the cases and referred the remaining cases to the Division of Registration for further investigation. Because the Board of Nursing does not have its own investigator, Board members have diligently pursued the authorization to hire an investigator but so far they have been unsuccessful in doing so.

COMPLAINTS:

The total number of written complaints received in 1978 was 46 . However, they were numerous inquiries and calls about complaints that were answered over the phone.

TYPES OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED WERE:

- private independent organizations recruiting nursing personnel
- Registered Nurses giving medications at unauthorized time
- negligent care to patient
- theft of Percodan
- unfair dismissal
- unauthorized change of M.D. by nurse
- staffing problems - nurse unable to be in 2 places at same time
- theft of narcotics
- fraud in obtaining grades
- theft of tranquilizers
- sleeping on duty
- physical abuse of patient
- forged prescriptions

DISCIPLINARY ACTS SUMMARY 1978

-- Summary Suspension	7
-- Suspension	5
-- Revocation	1
-- Cancellation	0
-- Voluntary Surrender :	7
-- Order to Show cause	1
-- Reprimand	6
-- Probation	1
-- Hold Renewal (Lapse)	4
-- Pending	1
-- Refer to Attorney General for Prosecution	0
	<u>33</u>

